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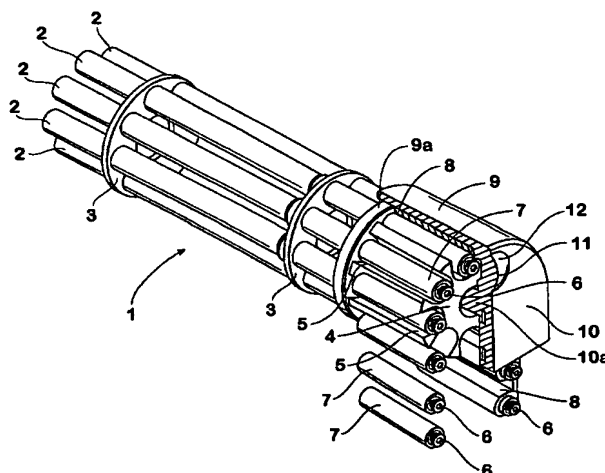
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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.(54) Title: **BELT-FED MACHINE GUN**

(57) Abstract: A belt-fed machine gun (1) for firing a multiplicity of cartridges (6) encased in sleeves (7), which sleeves are linked to form a belt (8). The machine gun includes a plurality of substantially parallel barrels (2) mounted for circumrotation, a plurality of cradles (5) for supporting the cartridges encased in the sleeves, said cradles being mounted for circumrotation with said plurality of substantially parallel barrels (2) wherein a number of the plurality of cradles in an operative condition are aligned coaxially with corresponding barrels, a housing (9) and a breechblock (10). The housing and said cradles (5) in an operative condition engage sleeves (7) encasing cartridges (6) to form chambers with said breechblock, wherein the breechblock includes a guide (11) for engagement with a follower (15) on the cartridges (6) to urge cartridge and sleeve (7) into engagement with a barrel (2). The gun (1) further includes a firing mechanism for initiating a propellant charge (18) in one or more of the cartridges (6) supported by cradles (5) in the operative condition.

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